

Service Date: January 28, 1987

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION  
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

\* \* \* \* \*

IN THE MATTER Of The Application	)	
Of BLACK HILLS CORPORATION dba	)	UTILITY DIVISION
BLACK HILLS POWER & LIGHT CO., For)		DOCKET NO. 87.1.2
Authority To Increase Their Quarterly	)	DEFAULT ORDER NO. 5254
Fuel Rate Rider.	)	

On January 8, 1987, Black Hills Corporation dba Black Hills Power & Light Company (BHP&L or Applicant) filed a petition with the Montana Public Service Commission pursuant to Sections 69-3-101 et seq., MCA, for an order authorizing the Applicant to increase its electric rates in order to reflect the increased cost of fuel used in *the* generation of electricity. The fuel costs concerned are for the months of September, October and November, 1986.

On January 13, 1987, the Commission issued a Notice of Opportunity For Public Hearing. A provision in that notice stated, "If, however, no hearing is requested by January 26, 1987 the Commission will consider the matter and a default order may be issued." No protests or requests for hearing were received by the Commission.

Having considered the application and the documentation furnished by the Applicant in support of its application and deeming itself fully advised in the premises, the Commission makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. If increased fuel costs for the months of September, October and November, 1986 are to be recovered, a charge of \$.00229 must be added to the base fuel cost of \$.01240 approved in Docket No. 83.4.25, which results in a total fuel charge of \$.01469 per KWH.

## CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Commission has jurisdiction over parties and proceedings in this matter.
2. The resulting rate levels are reasonable and just.

### ORDER

#### IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. The Quarterly Fuel Rate Rider for the billing period of February, March and April, 1987 is \$.00229 per KWH. This charge shall be added to the base fuel cost approved in Docket No. 83.4.25.
2. The approved rates shall be effective for electric service rendered on and after February 1, 1987.

DONE IN OPEN SESSION at Helena, Montana on the 26th day of January, 1987, by a 5 - 0 vote.

#### BY ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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CLYDE JARVIS, Chairman

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HOWARD L. ELLIS, Commissioner

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TOM MONAHAN, Commissioner

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DANNY OBERG, Commissioner

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JOHN B. DRISCOLL, Commissioner

#### ATTEST:

Ann Purcell  
Commission Secretary  
(SEAL)

NOTE: Any interested party may request the Commission to reconsider this decision. A motion to reconsider must be filed within ten (10) days. See 38.2.4806, ARM.